



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Eugene T. Butchma)
Serial No.: 09/680,303)
Filed: November 6, 2000)
For: BINDER APPARATUS)

Group Art Unit: 3722

Examiner: W. Fridie, Jr.

3722
R. Kent
11/26/01
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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6, 7 and 12-16.

Please amend claim 1 follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A binder apparatus comprising:

a first cover portion having a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge, and a second side edge;

a first spine portion having a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge and a second side edge, said first side edge and a width therebetween being hingeably connected to a side edge of said first cover portion,

a second cover portion having a top edge, a bottom edge, a first side edge, and a second side edge, the first side edge of said second cover portion being

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